

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel, without prejudice or disclaimer, claim 1; amend claims 23-26 and 30-34; and add new claims 38-47, as follows:

23. (once amended) The tyre of claim 22, wherein the second reinforcing filler is substantially free of carbon black.

24. (once amended) The tyre of claim 22, wherein the first reinforcing filler includes about 31%-by-weight white filler.

25. (once amended) The tyre of claim 22, wherein the first reinforcing filler includes at least about 31%-by-weight white filler.

26. (once amended) The tyre of claim 22, wherein the first reinforcing filler includes between 31%-by-weight white filler and 60%-by-weight white filler.

30. (once amended) A tyre for a wheel of a vehicle, comprising:  
a toroidal carcass provided with axially-opposite sidewalls and beads for anchoring the tyre to a rim of the wheel;  
a tread band radially-external to the toroidal carcass, comprising a surface with a plurality of hollows and grooves defining a tread pattern; and

a belt structure between the toroidal carcass and the tread band, axially extending between the sidewalls;

wherein the tread band comprises at least first and second circumferential axially-contiguous portions,

wherein the first portion is formed of a first composition comprising a first reinforcing filler including white filler and carbon black,

wherein the first reinforcing filler includes at least 40%-by-weight carbon black,

wherein the second portion is formed of a second composition comprising a second reinforcing filler including white filler,

wherein the second reinforcing filler includes at least 20%-by-weight white filler,

wherein the first composition is different from the second composition, and

wherein a difference between an amount of white filler in the first reinforcing filler and an amount of white filler in the second reinforcing filler achieves a tyre operating temperature lower than a reference temperature.

31. (once amended) The tyre of claim 30, wherein the second reinforcing filler is substantially free of carbon black.

32. (once amended) The tyre of claim 30, wherein the first reinforcing filler includes about 31%-by-weight white filler.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com

C2  
33. (once amended) The tyre of claim 30, wherein the first reinforcing filler includes at least about 31%-by-weight white filler.

34. (once amended) The tyre of claim 30, wherein the first reinforcing filler includes between 31%-by-weight white filler and 60%-by-weight white filler.

Add new claims 38-47, as follows:

-38. (new) A tyre for a wheel of a vehicle, comprising:

a toroidal carcass provided with axially-opposite sidewalls and beads for anchoring the tyre to a rim of the wheel;

a tread band radially-external to the toroidal carcass, comprising a surface with a plurality of hollows and grooves defining a tread pattern; and

C3  
a belt structure between the toroidal carcass and the tread band, axially extending between the sidewalls;

wherein the tread band comprises at least first and second circumferential axially-contiguous portions,

wherein the first portion is formed of a first composition comprising a first reinforcing filler including at least 40%-by-weight carbon black,

wherein the second portion is formed of a second composition comprising a second reinforcing filler including at least 20%-by-weight white filler,

wherein the first composition is different from the second composition, and

wherein a difference of hysteresis values at 70 °C of the first and second compositions is at least equal to 10% of a higher value of the two hysteresis values.

39. (new) The tyre of claim 38, wherein the second reinforcing filler comprises a greater amount of white filler than the first reinforcing filler, and

wherein the amount of white filler in the second reinforcing filler is greater than the amount of white filler in the first reinforcing filler by at least 20% of the amount of white filler in the second reinforcing filler.

3

40. (new) The tyre of claim 38, wherein a volume of the second portion is greater than or equal to 30% of an overall volume of the tread band.

41. (new) The tyre of claim 38, wherein a volume of the second portion is less than or equal to 80% of an overall volume of the tread band.

42. (new) The tyre of claim 38, wherein a width of the second portion is greater than or equal to 25% of an overall width of the tread band.

43. (new) The tyre of claim 38, wherein a width of the second portion is less than or equal to 80% of an overall width of the tread band.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com